SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

CALVERT, Ken (Republican)
Representative, 44th District, California
Elected 1992 to 103rd Congress
Reelected to succeeding Congresses

BACKGROUND

Born: Corona, California - 8 June 1953

Home: Riverside, California Marital status: Divorced Religion: Protestant

Education: Chaffey College, AA, 1973; San Diego State Univ, BA, 1975

Military: None

Profession: Real estate executive

Political: No previous public office. The redrawn 43rd's area was previously held by Rep Al McCandless (R), with a small portion of Rep George Brown's (D) district included. Defeated Mark Takano (D) with 47% of the vote in a close race (less than 550 votes); victory was decided by absentee ballots. Reelected in 2000 with 74% of the vote and in 2002 with 62%.

Rep Calvert is conservative on economic matters but moderate on social issues. Pledged to fight for a strong national defense, to protect Social Security, and to support 12-year term limits for House members and senators. Opposes a national health care system. Opposed realigning March AFB from active duty to reserves as recommended by the BRAC, but his efforts were unsuccessful. Voted for NATA and to limit U.N. command of U.S. military forces.

In the 106th Congress, discussed with a colleague the importance of the Reserve Components, including those at March Air Reserve Base, CA, and the C-17 as a key component for modernizing air mobility resources. Expressed support for the Taiwan Security Enhancement Act. Noting in April 1999 that the President and Sec/Def has begun a call up of more than 33,000 reservists and National Guardsmen, remarked that every Member represents men and women who could be called up to fight in the Balkans. Expressed his appreciation to the HASC for their continued support of the C-17. Authored H.R. 3218, identity theft.

In the 107th Congress, joined the Armed Services Cmte. Asserted "National security has been neglected for a number of years. I believe it is vital that our nation's defense posture again becomes a high priority." Identified his priorities as national missile defense, troop recruitment and retention, quality of life, and readiness, and earmarking C-17s for reserve units. (Because of language in the FY01 DoD Auth urging the Pentagon to consider putting C-17s at bases that could host reserve-associate units, such as March ARB, that base is in a stronger position.) Said "We need more C-17s and we need more on the West Coast....I think we have the Air Force's ear." (AF plans to deliever 8 C-17s beginning in 2004) Prior to 108th sole rep for March ARB.

Additional: In 1994 promised group US Term Limits that he would leave office by 2004. Inherited March AFB from Rep McCandless (R) after redistricting. Is a charter member of the Silver Eagles, a support group for families of personnel stationed at the base. Established his own business, Ken Calvert Real Properties, serving as president/general manager until his election to Congress. Worked on Gov Wilson's 1990 gubernatorial bid and his runs for the US Senate in 1982 and 1986. Member, Airpower Caucus. District includes Naval Warfare Assessment Station and some of his constituents work in neighboring Camp Pendleton Marine base.

AF Bases: March ARB (Shares March ARB with Rep Bono. March ARB realigned as a result of BRAC 93)

COMMITTEES

ARMED SERVICES - Subcs on Readiness; Projection Forces RESOURCES SCIENCE

